



annual report 2003
live learn
explore

Mission

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DIRECTOR
JOSEPH WYNNS

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RECREATION

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Indy Parks and Recreation shall provide clear leadership and well-defined direction for enhancing the quality of life for Indianapolis and Marion County residents by providing park and recreation resources and services that:

- Provide and/or facilitate quality recreation and leisure opportunities.
- Encourage and support natural and cultural resource stewardship and environmental education.
- Include safe, clean and well-maintained park facilities for the community's fun and enjoyment.
- Promote and facilitate mutually beneficial countywide partnerships.

Indy Parks and Recreation
City-County Building, Room 2301
200 East Washington Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

(317) 327-PARK

www.indyparks.org

Greetings!

Our city's parks enhance the quality of life for each neighborhood and each resident of Indianapolis. With park facilities reaching all corners of the community, Indy Parks and Recreation brings the best of city government to its people on a daily basis.

Once known only as the amateur sports capital of the world, Indianapolis has evolved into a world-class city with a variety of cultural, historical and sporting activities. It is largely due to Indy Parks that Indianapolis can consistently offer a diverse selection of arts and recreational programming to all Marion County residents.

We have all seen that parks can bring neighborhoods together, and strengthen entire communities and cities. Strong park systems also play an essential role in business and economic development in both the municipal and state level government agencies.

Recently, the dedication and professionalism of the department was recognized nationally. In the spring of 2003, Indy Parks earned national accreditation from the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA). This prestigious honor made us one of only 44 accredited municipal park agencies in the country.

Over the past year, we have continued to grow in our effort to provide diverse recreational opportunities and services for our community by continuing to acquire new parkland, developing capital projects, extending our greenways system, and offering new and expanded programming.

We encourage you to get out and enjoy all that Indy Parks has to offer. From jazz concerts to tennis, Indy Parks has it all.



Bart Peterson, Mayor
City of Indianapolis



Joseph Wynns, Director
Indy Parks and Recreation



BUILDING A WORLD-CLASS CITY
NEIGHBORHOOD BY NEIGHBORHOOD

— Mayor Bart Peterson

Department Successes

- Achieved agency accreditation through the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) in February 2003.
- Provided services and facilities to 7,184,464 park visitors through various programs, parks, facilities, and greenways.
- Received a value of \$833,769 through 224 partnerships, sponsorships, and donations.
- Received \$2,166,471 in grant funding.
- Utilized over 50,000 volunteer hours of service at a value of \$830,325.
- Assisted 36,066 customers through Customer Service.
- Completed the Indy Parks web site, www.indyparks.org.
- Obtained National Register of Historic Places Status for Indianapolis Historic Park and Boulevard System (known as the George Kessler plan) consisting of 3,474 acres.

Department Awards

- America in Bloom National Champion, Community Involvement - All Population Categories
- America in Bloom National Champion, Population Category 500,001–1,000,000
- American Trails Web Site Contest: Indygrownways.org
- Certificate of Appreciation-Support & Dedication to the Broad Ripple Village Association
- Honorable Mention from The League of American Bicyclists
- Indiana Urban Forestry Council Project of the Year for Tornado Turnaround Tree Planting Project
- Indianapolis Monthly Best Walking Trail: White River Wapahani
- International Society of Arboriculture Gold Leaf Award for Outstanding Arbor Day activities
- National Association for Interpretation Great Lakes Region Outstanding Interpretive Program Environmental EdVentures
- National Geographic Kodak Award Outstanding Achievement
- National Recreation and Park Association Great Lakes Region Partnership Award for Indy in Motion—A Walk in the Park
- Pathways for People: Opportunities for Progress
- The League of American Bicyclists: Honorable Mention
- Travelocity Local Secrets, Big Finds: Monon Trail 1 of 10 Indiana Winners



FUN AND ENJOYMENT

Department Facilities

- 166 Park Properties
- 23 Aquatic Facilities including nine Outdoor Aquatic Centers, seven Outdoor Traditional Pools, two Indoor Aquatic Centers, four Indoor Traditional Pools, and one Beach
- 19 Community Centers
- 13 Golf Courses
- 16 Greenways
- 4 Nature Centers
- 4 Disc Golf Courses
- 2 Ice Rinks
- 2 Dog Parks
- Conservatory
- Arts Center
- Velodrome
- Skate Park
- BMX Complex

Partnering for Success

EAGLE CREEK PARK FOUNDATION

Preserving and protecting Eagle Creek Park and raising funds for park improvements, renovations, promotions and programs.

FRIENDS OF GARFIELD PARK

Ensuring the preservation and continuation of the public benefits of Garfield Park through the enhanced funding, application of effective advocacy and expanded stewardship.

FRIENDS OF HOLLIDAY PARK

Preserving and maintaining Holliday Park as a place for recreation and the study of nature.

GREENWAYS FOUNDATION

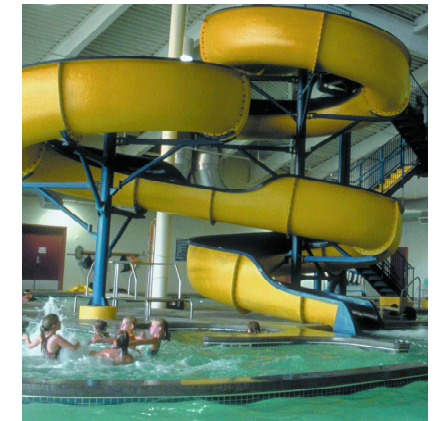
Improving the quality of life and health in central Indiana through the conservation and development of an interconnected system of greenways.

INDIANAPOLIS PARKS FOUNDATION

Enhancing the recreational, educational and cultural life of the Indianapolis community by encouraging and soliciting support for the parks system.



SAFE, CLEAN AND WELL-MAINTAINED



Community Recreation

The Community Recreation division provides high-quality recreational services and opportunities to Marion County residents.

COMMUNITY RECREATION'S CORE AREAS:

Community Centers
Neighborhood Parks
Arts Services
Day Camps and After-School Programs
Therapeutic and Inclusion Services
Maturing Adult Programs

SERVICE DELIVERY IS ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH:

Direct service delivery
Community partnerships
Coordinating collaborative efforts with other agencies and organizations to most effectively meet the needs of our residents

2003 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Indy Parks has joined forces with the Marion County Health Department and the National Institute for Fitness and Sport to offer Indy in Motion – A Walk in the Park. This health and fitness initiative, designed to be highly accessible to neighborhood residents, is offered free at a variety of park locations throughout the county. With over 2,000 participants, this partnership is making a huge impact on improving the health of our community.
- Organized the Indy in Motion Hearts N' Parks Youth Rally. This program involved 15 after-school programs participating in a five-mile walk to celebrate physical fitness and healthy lifestyles. Second through eighth grade students participated in weekly educational and activity-based programs that increased their level of physical activity as well as their knowledge on staying fit and eating a nutritional diet.
- The Character Discovery Challenge, Indy Parks' Character Education Program, recently developed a "Facilitators Manual" and received high marks on assessments and evaluations conducted by the Indiana Youth Institute. The program reached over 4,800 youth in 2003.

Indy Parks was invited to present this program at the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the Citizenship through Sports Alliance Annual Conference held at the Disney Institute in Orlando, Florida.

- Leading the way for after-school programs in the state, Indy Parks helped draft the "Basic Standards of Quality After-School Delivery." Indy Parks was recognized in the National Recreation and Park Association's national publication as a leader in program design and delivery.
- Indy Parks Summer Lunch Program served 41,876 lunches which was an increase of 6,252 lunches served over last year. The number of Summer Lunch sites also increased from 23 in
- After conducting a lengthy search and interview process, Indy Parks hired our first Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist in June of 2003. This addition has spurred growth of a variety of new programs and partnerships throughout the community. Some examples include the new Power Soccer program for individuals using power wheel chairs, and the Adaptive Recreation Day which exposed participants to wheelchair basketball, adaptive swimming, adaptive golf, hand-powered bicycles, and quad rugby. In addition, this staff person serves as the department's liaison for inclusion services, ADA issues, and community outreach to organizations servicing individuals with disabilities.
- 2,700 people enjoyed the Eclectic Music Series that featured bluegrass, country, Celtic, Latin, folk, rock, and jazz. This new concert series showcased 16 local bands and eight poets.
- Dance was brought back to Garfield Park at the MacAllister Center stage after a ten year hiatus with the student and professional cast of the Gregory Hancock Dance Theatre.
- Involved over 815 talented children, their friends, families and teachers, adult volunteers, and local arts organizations in the Citywide Talent Contest and Showcase performance at the Madame Walker Theatre.
- Partnered with the Mayor's Coalition of Latino Affairs to provide a family celebration and forum for over 1,500 Latinos in Indianapolis.
- With generous support of The Clowes Fund, 52 Young Audiences programs reached over 3,700 children throughout Indy Parks in 2003.
- Provided Christel House Academy an after-school visual art program. Sixty-nine classes were held with an average attendance of 48 children.



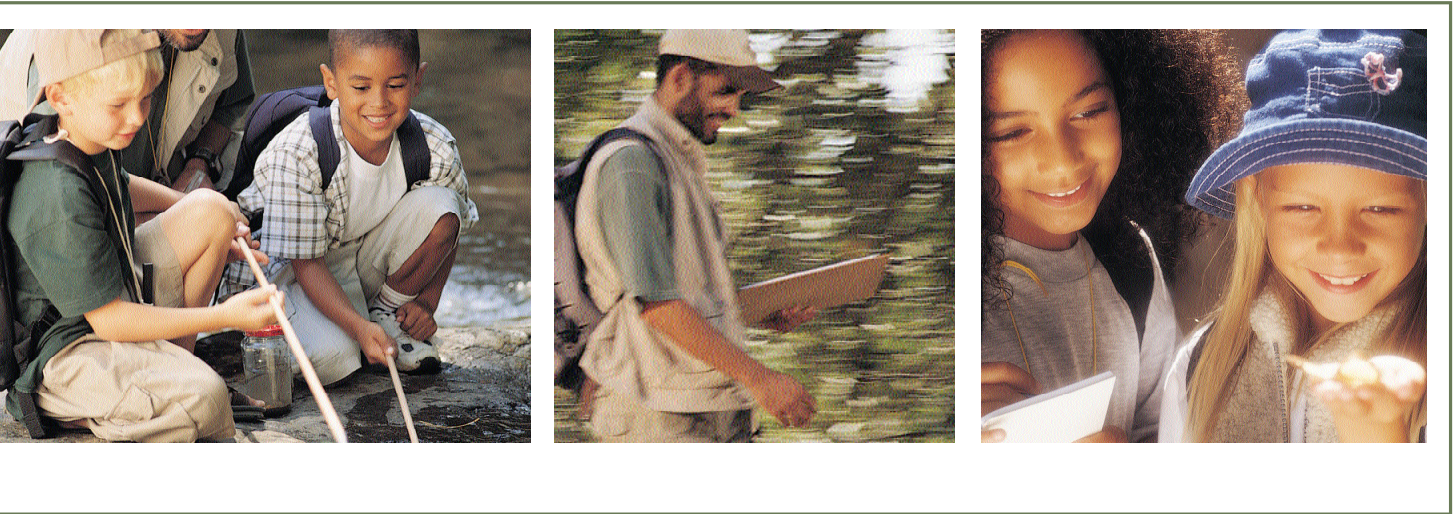
QUALITY RECREATION AND LEISURE OPPORTUNITIES

Environmental and Interpretive Services

The Environmental and Interpretive Services division provides quality environmental education and interpretive programs to the community through nature centers, environmental education programs, natural and cultural history programs, fine art exhibits, and the Hub Naturalist program.

2003 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Environmental EdVentures received the Outstanding Interpretive Program Award from the National Association for Interpretation, Great Lakes Region.
- Implemented the first year of the Hub Naturalist program from a \$190,000 grant received from the Nina Mason Pullium Charitable Trust.
- Reached a total of 21,000 youth in outreach environmental education programs through the Hub Naturalist program.
- Refurbished the Nature Discovery Trailer to become a traveling nature center bringing environmental interpretation to the community through special events, school functions, and outreach programming.
- Received a \$30,000 grant from the Central Indiana Community Foundation to offset the cost of providing outreach programming to Indianapolis Public Schools, township schools, and other youth organizations.
- Reached a total of 74,000 individuals in programming at Eagle Creek Nature Center, Holliday Nature Center, Southeastway Nature Park and Glenns Valley Nature Park combined.
- Approved the design of an interpretive and informational signage package for Holliday Nature Center with financial assistance from the Friends of Holliday.
- Reached 900 youth through two Environmental Adventure Days at Southeastway Nature Park.
- Initiated offering environmental education and interpretive programs at Southwestway Nature Park.



Golf

The Golf division provides high quality golf opportunities for people of all ages and ability throughout the Indianapolis community. This division manages municipal courses as well as plans and oversees capital improvements at each course. It manages course operating contracts, service contracts, and course management contracts.

THE 13 COURSES:

Coffin Golf Club	Sarah Shank Golf Course
Douglass Golf Course	Smock Golf Course
Eagle Creek Golf Course	South Grove Golf
Pleasant Run Golf Course	Thatcher Golf Course
Riverside Golf Course	Whispering Hills Golf Course
Riverside Golf Academy	Winding River Golf Course
Sahm Golf Course	

2003 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Received First Tee Chapter Status for our Junior Golf Program. With this status Indy Parks is a member of the World Golf Foundation and as such is able to participate in grants and programs that the foundation supports. The First Tee was established to bring affordable access of golf to inner-city youth across the country.
- Awarded \$100,000 grant from the First Tee for construction of the new Junior Golf facility.
- Completed capital improvements at Coffin, Douglass, Eagle Creek, Pleasant Run, Riverside, Sahm, South Grove and Whispering Hills to make each facility accessible to persons with disabilities. The improvements included remodeling the clubhouses, paths of travel, counters, and restrooms. Access ramps, new doors, and new fixtures allow persons with disabilities to access these golf facilities.



Greenways

The Greenways division manages, improves and maintains the greenways system within Marion County to provide recreational and fitness opportunities; promote open space conservation; link neighborhoods together with other parks and community assets; educate the public about the importance of the natural environment; promote economic development by making Indianapolis a desirable place where new businesses can locate; and redevelop and manage the Marion County bicycle routes as part of the Indianapolis Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, which will connect the greenways and parks system to communities.

2003 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Opened 6.5 miles of new trail including the Monon Trail extending to Downtown, Fall Creek Greenway and the Monon Trail connecting to Fall Creek, Eagle Creek Greenway along Raymond Street, and a one-half mile section of Little Buck Creek Trail that was added by C.P. Morgan.
- Established 12 new bike routes with signage.
- Planted over 700 trees and maintained existing native trees, shrubs, grasses and wildflowers on greenway corridors.
- Conducted cleanups, plantings and removals on Fall Creek Corridor with local schools, youth groups, volunteers and the Department of Public Works. Contracted Eco Logic to control invasive plant material along the corridor.
- Partnered with Indiana University Purdue University at Indianapolis (IUPUI) and Marian College to assess habitat and monitor wildlife – some areas included Lilly ARBOR project, Lake Sullivan Wetlands, and the Marian College Eco Lab.
- Initiated a tree planting program on the South Monon to restore area vegetation. Volunteers planted 86 trees provided by Indianapolis Power and Light Company (IPL).
- Relocated a 13-ton limestone sculpture, Faces of Indiana for the Millennium, to the Monon Trail from the Indiana Governor's residence.
- Students from Indianapolis Public Schools painted a mural on a Department of Public Works structure near Sutherland Avenue and the Monon Trail.
- Children from the Governor's Conference helped paint a mural at 15th Street near the Monon Trail.

- Gleaner's Food Bank started a mural spanning three buildings and a full-city block near 16th Street and the Monon Trail.
- White River Clean up attracted 210 volunteers despite harsh weather conditions.
- Pedal & Park volunteers donated 819 total hours to park bicycles in partnership with the Metropolitan Planning Organization and the Greenways Foundation at six annual city events.
- Pedal & Park events saw 77 bikes at Earth Day, 51 bikes at the Broad Ripple Art Fair, 777 bikes during the 2003 Indiana State Fair, and 270 bikes at the one-day Penrod Art Fair.
- Formed and maintained 125 partnerships.
- Partnered with 1,187 volunteers for a total of 4,947 hours.
- Partnered in hosting the Mid America Trails and Greenways Conference, bringing over 500 national visitors to Indianapolis.
- Received a Transportation Enhancement grant of \$66,437 for Fall Creek Trail.
- Received \$150,000 from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for expanding the greenways trail research program with IUPUI.
- Received \$1.8 million from federal grant funds for the Pennsy Trail.



RECREATION RESOURCES AND SERVICES

Park Maintenance

The Park Maintenance division maintains Indy Parks facilities and properties. Operating elements include beautification, forestry (includes city's street trees), horticulture, grounds and facility maintenance, land improvement, natural resources, and land stewardship.

2003 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Park Maintenance coordinated the Tornado Turnaround Event with other city agencies and community groups. This program culminated in 987 trees being planted, 727 volunteers supporting the planting program, and \$63,000 of in-kind business community support. As a result of its success, the program received state-wide recognition as the Project of the Year by the Indiana Urban Forestry Council and received the "Golden Leaf" award from the Indiana Arborist Association.
- Continuing its practice of recycling storm damaged trees into mulch, the Forestry operation produced approximately 22,000 tons of mulch with a market value of \$478,000. This mulch was used as bed cover for city maintained landscape beds.
- Improvements made to the rowing course by the Land Improvement section enabled the department to successfully host the 2003 NCAA Women's National Rowing Championships at Eagle Creek Park. As a result of the success of this event, Eagle Creek was chosen as the host site for the 2004 US National Rowing Championship.
- Facility Maintenance operation staff generated \$170,000 in cost savings for the department by utilizing staff resources to design repair improvements which, in turn, allowed Facility Maintenance staff to perform work in-house and save contractual dollars.
- Park Maintenance staff supported the city's efforts in the 2003 America in Bloom competition. Indianapolis was named the 2003 America in Bloom city for cities having a population of 500,000 to 1,000,000.
- As a result of the efforts of the Forestry staff, Indianapolis was named a Tree City USA for the thirteenth straight year.



BENEFICIAL COUNTYWIDE PARTNERSHIPS

Park Rangers Division

The Park Rangers division implements education safety programs, develops community policing strategies, and is responsible for enforcement of city ordinances, parks policies and procedures.

2003 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Initiated a 6/3 rotating day off schedule which increased on duty manpower from 50% to 66%.
- Initiated a Bonus Day Program which eliminated overtime costs for holidays and the need for compulsory callback.
- Obtained over 2,000 hours of Indiana Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) Certified, Professional Law Enforcement Training at no cost to the department.
- Moved the Park Ranger Cadet Program to an Explorer Program associated with and under the auspices of the Boy Scouts of America.
- Established the duties and responsibilities of the department's Risk Manager.
- Established special event planning within the division to provide an organized safety and security approach to special events.
- The average Park Ranger received 136 hours of law enforcement related training in 2003. Park Ranger supervisors averaged 156 hours. The state ILEA standard is 16 hours per year.
- Graduated 10 reserve officers in March 2003. These officers have donated hundreds of hours resulting in significant savings while increasing a professional law enforcement response to park properties.
- Ranger Field Training Officers certified over 1,000 hours of field training.
- Certified two department instructors through ILEA making a total of three.
- Provided 80 hours of basic life saving and law enforcement training to seven new Explorers.
- Established new district lines more appropriate to established jurisdictions and communications.
- Moved communications to Indianapolis Police Department channels resulting in appropriate 911 response.
- Planned, organized, and staffed over 35 special events with 500 people or more at each event.
- Established a ParkWatch Program to partner with community groups to preserve and protect park properties.
- Conducted over 60,000 park checks in 2003.
- Created the Department of Parks and Recreation Risk Management Plan.
- Began a comprehensive review and update of all Emergency Action Plans for each facility.
- Established a Special Events Contingency Planning policy.
- Aquatics reports and third party accident reports were revamped and computerized for electronic filing.
- Created a Department of Parks and Recreation Emergency Action Plan for inclusion in the County Emergency Management Plan.
- Provided training and assistance in developing the Divisional Emergency Action Plans for inclusion in the Department Emergency Action Plan.

Resource Development

Resource Development steers the direction of the department through resource planning, capital asset development and sustainable strategic tactics. In addition to the planning tasks, this division is also responsible for construction management and project inspection, land acquisition and real estate services.

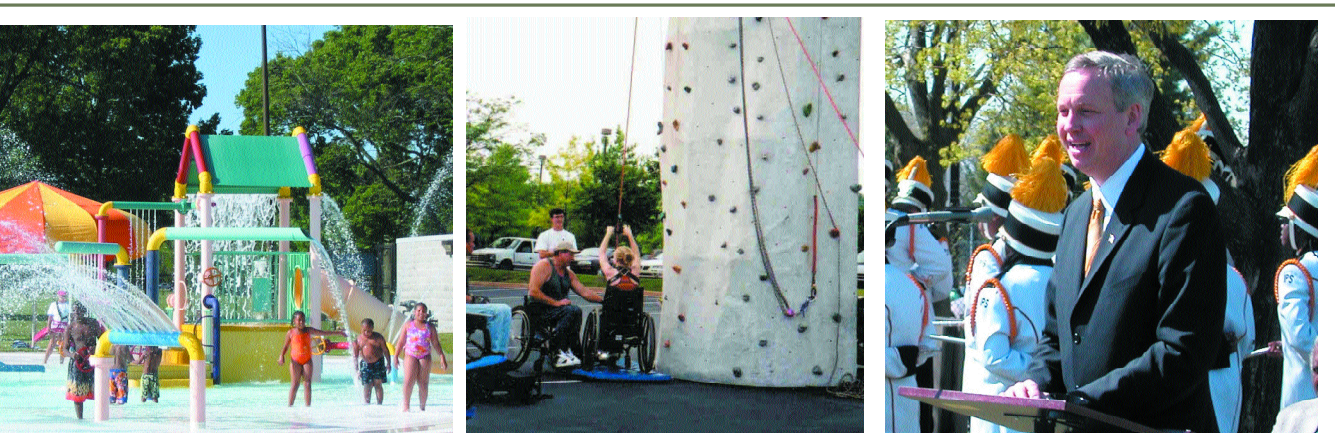
- Completed design and began construction on three community centers in Washington, Municipal Gardens, and Christian Parks.
- Completed design and awarded contracts for community centers in Bethel and Rhodius Parks.
- Implemented 48 capital improvement projects totaling over three million dollars.
- Received a grant for \$185,000 to renovate Broad Ripple Park Boat Ramp.
- Completed Trust for Public Land: Land Acquisition Study.
- Designed picnic shelters for installation in seven parks.
- Designed playgrounds for installation in four parks.
- Participated in 48 public meetings.
- Completed more than 57 site plans.
- Completed purchase of the Cottonwood Lakes property of 87 acres.
- Acquired Frank and Judy O'Bannon Old Northside Soccer Park.
- Acquired three neighborhood parks.

Sports and Special Revenue Facilities

The Sports and Special Revenue Facilities division provides both quality sports programs and special facilities combined with educational opportunities for volunteers, coaches, and staff. Some of the facilities include indoor and outdoor aquatic centers, sports courts and fields, ice rinks, velodrome, skate park, and BMX track.

2003 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed improvements to Perry Ice Rink included painting the arena ceiling, new all-sports floor in the lobby and locker room, new benches in the lobby, and new skate rental racks which were installed to provide a professional handling and appearance to the skate rental shop.
- Chuck Klein Softball Complex hosted five youth fast-pitch tournaments and four adult slow-pitch tournaments.
- Fall softball leagues increased to 14 teams in 2003 after having no teams register in 2002 at the Chuck Klein Softball Complex.
- Concessions at Chuck Klein Softball Complex increased from \$9,000 in 2002 to over \$24,000 in 2003.
- For the third consecutive year, Indy Parks Aquatics received the prestigious Platinum Aquatic Safety Award from Ellis & Associates in recognition of our outstanding performance during unannounced aquatic safety audits. Indy Parks was in the top seven percent of all Ellis clients worldwide for 2003.
- The Aquatics Section introduced the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii and the National Recreation and Park Association's Pool Cool Program at eight pools and aquatic centers teaching over 900 children and 300 lifeguards about the importance of sun protection.
- Major Taylor Velodrome in conjunction with Marian College hosted the 2003 Collegiate National Track Cycling Championships.
- Completed renovations on the Tarkington Tennis Center.
- Youth Sports Policy, Procedure and Standards Manual completed.
- 1,000 volunteer coaches were certified through the National Alliance for Youth Sports.
- Kuntz Soccer and Sports Center hosted the 2003 Showcase Indiana which featured 16 Men's and Women's Division I and II Indiana College Soccer Teams.
- Ellenberger Park's excellence in arts programming included the first Arts Camp and a partnership with the Irvington Guild of Artists "Walk in the Park" art show.



ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF LIFE

Indy Parks and Recreation
Condensed Financial Report
for the year ended December 31, 2003

REVENUES:

Taxes	\$21,026,369
Charges for Services	4,131,947
Federal Grants	959,082
Local Grants and Donations	112,607
Interest and Other Operating Revenues	943,090

Total Revenues \$27,173,095

OTHER FINANCING SOURCES:

Sales and Lease of Property	\$ 269,645
Prior Year Encumbrances Parks General	3,839,338
Prior Year Encumbrances City Cumulative Capital	2,794,686
Current Year City Cumulative Capital Allocation	3,736,000

Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources \$37,812,764

EXPENDITURES:

Park and Recreation General	\$26,757,459
Capital Outlays General	4,414,304
City Cumulative Capital Improvements	3,872,234

Total Expenditures \$35,043,997



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